



their value within the water system, their history and their significance for spatial development, and also included bridges, locks, and ships, all aspects that make a canal a 'canal'. This research was done by Roger Raat and Golfslag Consultancy in cooperation with the Cultural Heritage Agency, State Water department and the ANWB .

### The map of all canals in The Netherlands

Roger Raat has made a comprehensive map of all canals in The Netherlands. Showing not only all canals but also including all lost canals. This breathtaking map shows the connectedness of all big and small branches of our canals and the intriguing structures they form in the landscape

next to their significance for opening up the country. The Canals Map brings a fascinating history alive. Roger Raat: "The map shows as much as 1050 canals. So it is a map with many lines. It was quite a challenge to realise the project, but here it is, an overview of all Dutch canals. It encompasses all navigable canals, canalised rivers and creeks and all lost canals. With this you have an excellent image of the genesis of canals and their significance for the landscape".

### Declaration of Groningen

On the initiative of the WCC2011 the Declaration of Groningen is formulated. During the conference this declaration will be submitted to the conference participants for approval. The declaration deals with the necessary sustainable care for canals as elements in a integrated water system and as carriers for spatial development as well as cultural identity.

### Exhibition

Headed under the title: "Navigation, new use for old canals" the Northern Maritime Museum in Groningen in collaboration with the ANWB and the project management of WCC2011, presents the heritage of canals and their recreational use up to today. In the course of centuries an interconnected network of waterways developed in The Netherlands that enabled trade and transportation to crisscross all of the country on water. Large numbers of motor boats use these canals for recreational purposes, while bikers and hikers frequent their shores. The exhibition gives a historical outline of the genesis of the network of canals with the use of maps and photo's. Special attention is given to the three main themes of the exhibition: the recreational navigation with motor yachts, where the most beautiful models from museum collections will be on show; exceptional documentation and maps from the ANWB-collection; and unique cinematographic material on water recreation of which a compilation will be





permanently on show. The exhibition is open from the 18th of September 2011 till February the 12th in 2012 on Tuesdays till Saturdays from 10-17 hours and on Sundays from 13- 17 hours. There will also be a photographic exhibition

titled: "Old and new waterways, the Zwette and the Princes Margriet Canal" in the Frysian Maritime Museum in Sneek about the waterway between Lemmer and Delfzijl.



**GRONINGEN SEAPORTS**

Contact information:

JanPieter Janse, project management,  
tel. +31 (0)6 52473360

Marika Schnitker, project secretariat,  
tel. +31 (0) 33 4217556/ +31 (0)6 15879396  
Project secretariat: Smallepad 5, Postbus 1600,  
3800 BP Amersfoort, The Netherlands

E-mail: [info@wcc2011.nl](mailto:info@wcc2011.nl)

Website: [www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl](http://www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl)

## Colofon Mei 2011

Texts and production: JanPieter Janse, Marika Schnitker en Jaap van Peperstraten

Graphic design: Paul Golembiewski

Map on page 4: Menne Kosian (Cultural Heritage Agency)

Map North Sea Canal: Joost Lubberhuizen, RWS Haarlem

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**World Canals Conference 2011**  
Groningen, The Netherlands  
September 19-24

**24<sup>th</sup> World Canals Conference  
shows the richness of the  
waterways in The Netherlands**



**Waterways-Ways of Value<sup>©</sup>**

## Waterways-Ways of Value

Waterways-Ways of Value© is the main heading of the World Canals Conference (WCC2011) to be held in Groningen from the 19<sup>th</sup> till the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2011.

This annual international forum (the 24<sup>th</sup> in succession) is about everything to do with old and new canals and will be held for the first time

in The Netherlands. The latest developments concerning waterways in our country and abroad are being discussed. Attention will be given to the recreational use of waterways like the canal Erica-Ter Apel as part of a recreational route connecting Dutch and German waterways. But also the diversion and upgrading of the Zuid-Willemsvaart to class IV as well as the upgrading

of the canal Lemmer-Delfzijl to class V-a will be a topic. The conference is an unique opportunity for governmental agencies, scientific institutions, companies, tourism organisations, and representatives of private canal NGO's to share their knowledge. The World Canals Conference is annually organised by Inland Waterways International (IWI) a non-profit organisation which promotes worldwide the preservation, use, redevelopment and sustainable management of waterways. Next to being a forum for sharing knowledge and expertise, WCC also provides an opportunity to establish new networks to stimulate sustainable development in shipping, water recreation, and hydraulic engineering. The 25th edition of the World Canals Conference will take place next year in Yangzhou, China, the 26th conference in 2013 will be in Toulouse, France.

## Day by Day

### Prelude on Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>

#### Location: Hoge der A in the City of Groningen

From 15.00 onwards a public event, the entry of yachts and historic ships, performances of several choirs. The reception of the historic ships in the centre of town, welcome by dr. P. Rehwinkel, mayor of the City of Groningen.

### Conference on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Location: Martini Plaza, conference venue

09.00 Welcome and opening ceremony, keynote speakers

12.00 Working visit to the province of Drenthe by coach, including lunch and supper

App. 22.00 Return to the hotels by coach

### Conference on Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup>

#### Location: Marini Plaza, conference venue

09.00 Lectures, poster sessions, and business presentations

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Lectures and workshops

17.00 Excursion in the old town of Groningen followed by a reception by the mayor

### Conference on Wednesday September 21<sup>st</sup>

#### Location: Marini Plaza, conference venue

09.00 Lectures, poster sessions, and business presentations

12.00 Working visit to the province of Fryslân by coach and boat, including lunch and supper

App. 22.00 Return to the hotels by coach

### Conference on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Location: Marini Plaza, conference venue

09.00 Lectures, and presentations of WCC2012 at Yangzhou, China and WCC2013 at Toulouse, France

12.00 Working visit to the province of Groningen by coach, including lunch and supper

App. 22.00 Return to the hotels by coach

### Post conference tour on Friday September 23<sup>rd</sup>

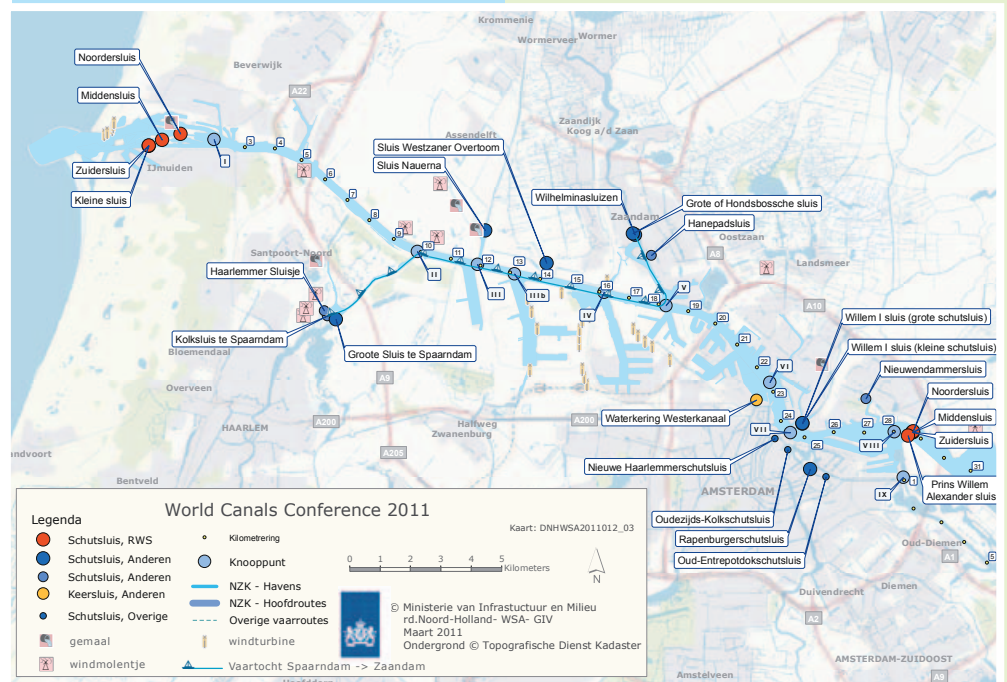
#### "Journey to the bottom of the sea".

08.30 Departure from the City of Groningen by coach.

Short visits to: "balgstuw" at Kampen, the Apeldoorn Canal with introduction in Hattem and Apeldoorn, Beatrix locks in the Lek Canal at Vreeswijk, reception by State Water Department, dinner and overnight stay in Houten, next to the Amsterdam-Rijn Canal.

## Canals, the watermark of The Netherlands

For The Netherlands, with its myriads of waterways, the conference is an excellent opportunity to highlight our rich history and



### Post conference tour on Saturday September 24

#### "Journey to the bottom of the sea".

09.00 Departure to the Haarlemmermeer Polder, reception at the pumping station Museum De Ququius, visit to Spaarndam the village of Hansje Brinker, boat trip in the North Sea Canal and the early industrial landscape of the Zaan, visit to Zaanse Schans (optional).

Adjustments in the program are still possible, actual information on the program will be on the website [www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl](http://www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl)

our knowledge of the subject of water. A person who flies over The Netherlands or sails through the country, also when you study the map, there is a striking abundance of waterways. The map on the right page gives a unique image of the significance of water and waterways in the Dutch landscape. Our ancestors needed many waterways to reclaim land, to get rid of abundant water, and for the transport of people and goods. Water and waterways decree the spatial arrangement of our country. However, due to the decrease in the transport over water, local authorities decided to close down and fill up canals. Water related heritage like bridges, locks, service building, etc. often disappeared in the process. There are also other threads to report, as the tendency to centralize the control of bridges and locks. At the conference we aim for the presentation of an integral overview of all issues at stake.

The main themes of the conference are:

- Economy: transport and tourism
- Ecology: water management and nature preservation
- Heritage: protection and redevelopment
- Spatial planning: revitalisation
- Technology: infrastructure and water quality

The conference will result in the Declaration of Groningen aiming at generating sustained attention for canals as part of our infrastructure, for the redevelopment of regions, and as an source of pride of place and local identity.

### The program

The central location for the conference is the congress centre Marini Plaza in the City of Groningen. The working visits to the Northern Provinces by coach and boat, are closely linked to the different conference themes and the presentations in Martini Plaza.

The working language for the conference will be English, there are no translation facilities. The program consists of 3 parts:

- Lectures, workshops, and presentations at Martini Plaza in the City of Groningen
- 10 working visits in cooperation with our partners in the northern provinces and in Germany
- The post conference tour "Journey to the bottom of the sea."

### Sponsors

This conference is made possible through the financial contributions of:

- Cultural Heritage Agency
- The provinces of Groningen, Fryslân and Drenthe
- Leader program
- Agenda voor de Veenkoloniën
- Water Authorities Hunze en Aa's, Noorderzijvest, Wetterskip Fryslân and Velt en Vecht.
- The Water Authorities Rijnland and Stichtse Rijnlanden contribute to the post conference tour

### Call for papers

It is still possible to propose a contribution to the conference. A draft for a presentation can consist of max. 400 words and contains the title, name, address, e-mail address, and a short biography. You can send your contribution to the chair of the scientific committee, dr.Michiel Gerding: [m.gerding@drentsplateau.nl](mailto:m.gerding@drentsplateau.nl)

### Subscribe soon!

There is quite some interest from The Netherlands and abroad for this conference, so it is advisable to subscribe soon to safeguard your participation. One can subscribe for the full program, but also partial participation is possible. The conference fee is € 450, not including accommodation. Booking for hotels can be done separately in cooperation

with the Groningen Congress Office. The conference fee per day is € 150. Registration and hotel booking can be done through our website [www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl](http://www.worldcanalsconference2011.nl)

For the 2 days post conference tour "Journey to the bottom of the sea" separate subscription is needed. The costs of the post conference tour is € 200 including lunches, supper and hotel.



### Why in the north of The Netherlands?

The 24th edition of the World Canals Conference is for the first time in The Netherlands. Which is about time taking into consideration the eminent position of the Dutch with respect to reclaiming land from the water, the protection against the perils of water, and the use of water and waterways for trade. The cumulated knowledge on hydraulic engineering is enormous and an important export product. The Netherlands has 6600 kilometre of canals! The north of the country is exemplary for the conference because of the great significance of the grid of canals for the exploitation of peat. Waterways and transport over water have defined the spatial arrangements in these areas, even when the era of peat was over. The agriculture in the former peat moors have for a long time profited from the existing water infrastructure. And the shipbuilding in Groningen is still of world class, outstanding and innovative.

### The origin of the title of the conference

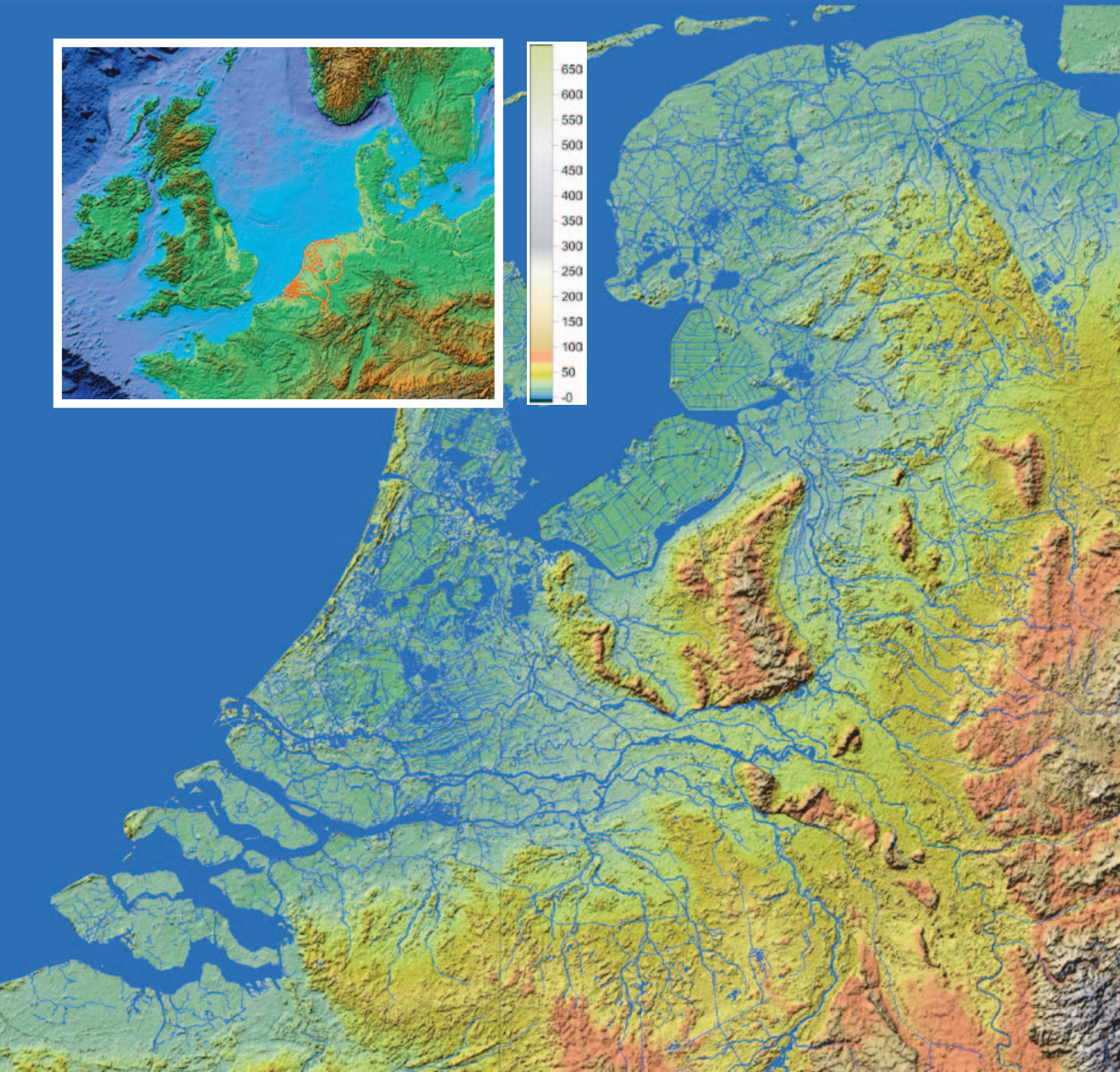
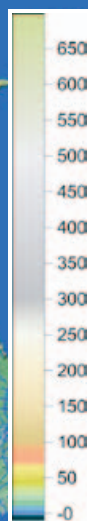


The title of WCC2011, Waterways –Ways of Value©, is borrowed from the current research from ir. Arjan Hijdra, who is working on a dissertation for the State University of Groningen. He states: "Waterways are in a direct way useful ways of transport, but also in a less direct way water generates a multitude of values, so therefore 'Ways of Value'. Take for instance the development of the industry in the province of Groningen, both the chemical industry and the production of electricity depend upon access to and from the water. A property developer can ask up to 30% more for houses in the vicinity of water". He continues on stating: "Nowadays you will see more often that various parties work together to further develop water related values. My research focuses on the reasons for these cooperation and the barriers the parties encounter in the process. I hope to learn a lot of interesting examples of clever developments on and around waterways".

### New developments

Redevelopment of canals has become an important instrument for the revitalisation of areas. Recently many initiatives for the restoration of canals, the reconnection of waterways, and redevelopment of shipping routes have started.





Examples are the peat routes through the provinces of Drenthe, Fryslân and Overijssel. The ambitious Frysian lake project, and the newly established connections between waterways are other examples of the recent interest for canals. These developments deserve more international attention, in particular the bordercrossing connection with the Haren-Rüthenbrock Canal. In 2012 it will be possible to navigate from the West of The Netherlands into Niedersachsen (Germany) which will be an economic and tourism impulse for all communities along the route.

#### Development of canals on the national level

There will be attention for the current redevelopment of the Dutch main waterways and canals. Among others we mention the

Zuid-Willemsvaart, realised in 1826, which is now being adapted for class IV ships. For that reason a 9 kilometre new canal is being dug around the town of 's Hertogenbosch with 3 new locks. In the Amsterdam-Rijn Canal, the most intense used canal in Europe, the Prince Bernard Locks were renovated and a second lock is in development at the Beatrix Locks. The quality of the water in this canal is also vital for the supply of drinking water in the west of the country.

#### Development of canals on the international level

There will be ample time at the ECC2011 to look into the international bordercrossing development of canals. In France the Seine-Nord deserves our attention and in Germany the development around the Mittellandkanal. There will be a

presentation on the Augustov Canal in Belarus which connects 7 natural lakes and was built in the 19th century with Dutch expertise for the transport of grain to the harbours in the Baltic Sea. It is a unique historical hydraulic monument within a breathtaking natural environment. There will also be attention to Dutch canals in Sri Lanka and surveys for new to develop canals in South-Africa and Turkey. Furthermore there will be attention to the historical canals in several European countries and their preservation. New roles for canals and the impact thereof on the hinterland.

#### Top 12 canals of The Netherlands

During the preparation for the WCC2011 we have with our partners worked on a listing of the top 12 of the Dutch canals. For each of the 12 provinces one canal was selected, criteria being: